

C. SCOTT FRANKLIN
18TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

249 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-1252

124 S. FLORIDA AVENUE, SUITE 304
LAKE LAND, FL 33801

1069 US 27 NORTH, ROOM 116
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

201 W. CENTRAL AVENUE
LAKE WALES, FLORIDA 33853

(863) 644-8215

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0915

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ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

May 1, 2024

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Polk County's Reclaimed Water Alternative Water Supply Project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Polk County, located at 330 W. Church St., Bartow, Florida, 33830. Allocation of funding will go to constructing a reclaimed water main to transfer excess reclaimed water from the Northwest to the Northeast Regional Service Area. The proposed 16-inch pipeline would be approximately 30 miles and be constructed from a combination of PVC and HDPE pipe material. Due to the distance, two booster stations are anticipated along the route to provide the hydraulics needed to convey the reclaimed water to the area of demand.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it helps meet or maintain Clean Water Act/Safe Drinking Water Act standards. Availability of groundwater in Central Florida is limited and alternative water supply projects are extremely costly and are not widely available. Therefore, using existing resources to their fullest potential is paramount.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



C. Scott Franklin

Member of Congress